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SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Note verbale dated 10 March 1993 from the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to transmit to him herewith the statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Belarus on 17 February 1993 in connection with the decision of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session to adopt the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions, and requests that this note and its annex be circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under agenda item 111, entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations".

Annex

STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS ON 17 FEBRUARY 1993 IN CONNECTION WITH THE DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS

On 23 December 1992, the General Assembly approved a recommendation of the Committee on Contributions to review the rate of assessment of the Republic of Belarus, which would increase it one and a half times.

From the very beginning, the Government of the Republic of Belarus considered, and continues to consider, that the Committee's recommendation was neither legitimate nor justified in so far as a number of violations and errors of a conceptual, methodological and procedural nature were committed during its preparation. This point of view was confirmed in the statements made by representatives of many delegations of States Members of the United Nations and in the opinion on that question given by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs at a meeting of the Fifth Committee at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

In particular, surprise was expressed that the Republic of Belarus, one of the founding Members of the United Nations, whose rate of assessment had already been determined in the existing scale of assessments of the United Nations for 1992, 1993 and 1994, was, under the pretext of the need to apply a "uniform approach", considered by the Committee on Contributions to be one of the new Members of the United Nations. Consequently, its rate of assessment, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/221 A, adopted by consensus, was in fact reviewed and increased by the Committee on Contributions without applying existing principles and criteria and in contravention of rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

In this connection, we consider it necessary to emphasize, once again, that the actions undertaken by an expert organ of the United Nations are unacceptable to the Republic of Belarus, and its Government, together with other States Members of the United Nations, intends to continue to seek a just settlement of the question of the size of Belarus's contribution to the regular budget of the United Nations.